

262/ 2600 0280

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Philip Victor HARMAN et al.

Serial No.: 10/024,248

Filed: December 21, 2001

For: IMAGE PROCESSING SYSTEM

Atty. Docket No.: 006020.00014

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown



SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

FEB 22 2002

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Sir:

In accordance with Applicants' duty of disclosure, the following information is submitted for consideration by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-captioned application. The information is identified on the attached PTO 1449 form.

Applicants do not waive any right to take appropriate action to establish patentability over the listed documents should they be applied as references against the claims of the present application.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner fully consider each of the documents, initial the enclosed Form PTO-1449 in the appropriate place to indicate that the document has been considered, and return a copy of the initialed form to the undersigned in accordance with MPEP Section 609.

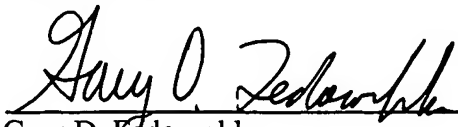
Applicants believe that no fee is necessary pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). However, if a fee is due, the Office is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: January 10, 2002

By:


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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete If Known

Application Number	10/024,248
Filing Date	December 21, 2001
First Named Inventor	Philip Victor HARMAN et al.
Group Art Unit	Unknown
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	006020.00014

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		5,111,281		Sekiguchi	05-05-1992	
		5,485,203		Nakamura et al.	01-16-1996	
		5,860,921		Ma et al.	01-19-1999	

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ₆
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP	08-131401	A	Asahi Optical	05-28-1996		abst
		WO	99/37098	A1	Vista Medical	07-22-1999		
		JP	11-298907	A	Asahi Optical	10-29-1999		abst

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		T.N. Mitchell, et al., "Three-dimensional endoscopic imaging for minimal access surgery," <i>J.R. Coll. Surg. Edinb.</i> , 38, October 1993, 285-292	

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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